

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box (+)

PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> (use as many sheets as necessary)				Application Number	08/943,238
				Filing Date	October 3, 1997
				First Named Inventor	Masaaki HIROKI et al.
				Group Art Unit	2814
				Examiner Name	S. Rao
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	0756-1724

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials <sup>1</sup>	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patent or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		4,007,294		Woods et al.	02/08/1977	
		5,268,679		Shannon	12/07/1993	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials <sup>1</sup>	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patent or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	7 <sup>2</sup>
		Office <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials <sup>1</sup>	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	7 <sup>2</sup>

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
-----------------------	--------------------

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

**COPY**